





## Lebanese critical of French troops after Israeli attack

**TYRE, Lebanon (R)** — South Lebanese villagers say French troops in the U.N. peacekeeping force failed to protect them during an Israeli attack last week in which medical sources said six people were killed.

"We want good relations with the French in UNIFIL (U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon) but after what happened we don't want anything more to do with them," said Mohammad Haukous, a local resistance leader against the Israeli occupation.

UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel acknowledged the UNIFIL's good relations with the Shi'ite Muslim villages had been damaged by the raid but said accusations by local people of UNIFIL complicity were ridiculous.

He said villagers misunderstood UNIFIL's role in relation to Israeli troops.

"Here we have two forces with totally incompatible goals and totally different methods of operation... UNIFIL is not allowed to fire a single shot unless in self-defence," he said.

Last week's Israeli operation in southern villages was in an area patrolled by French U.N. troops, and Shi'ite leader Nabih Berri has said he was almost certain UNIFIL was involved.

Medical sources said six people, mostly women, were shot dead

when Israeli soldiers hunted resistance fighters in the villages. Israel said its troops killed two people.

People in Maarakeh said they became apprehensive when UNIFIL troops abandoned a checkpoint at the entrance to the village two days before the raid.

"After the raid, people believe UNIFIL is only here to bury them," said Khalil Gerahdi, a resistance leader in Maarakeh.

Goksel told Reuters a UNIFIL patrol was in Maarakeh during the Israeli raid. In one village, a French soldier fired over the head of an Israeli who had fired in his direction, he said.

He said the Israelis denied the UNIFIL patrol in Maarakeh freedom of movement while they searched the village, and delayed U.N. ambulances in the area from removing the wounded.

Several people in Touma villages said they saw French UNIFIL troops alongside Israeli soldiers in the village.

Omidhah Dhaine, mother of a 17-year-old girl wounded by three

shots in the raid, said: "I recognised the faces of five French (UNIFIL) soldiers with the Israelis."

French troops stopped the car taking her daughter to hospital at five a.m. outside the village and it was nine a.m. before the girl was allowed to go to hospital, she said.

Medical sources in the area said it was nine a.m. before Tyre's Jebel Amel Hospital received any wounded.

Mr. Haukous said: "The French UNIFIL troops knew everything in advance and they want us to pay for what happened to their embassy in Beirut."

The French embassy in mainly-Muslim West Beirut has been the target of several bomb and gun attacks. Last year, 58 French troops died when a suicide truck bomber destroyed their Beirut headquarters.

UNIFIL was established in 1978 after an Israeli invasion of South Lebanon that year and was mandated to "confirm" Israel's withdrawal and help Lebanon restore government authority in the region.

The force has 5,200 men from nine countries stationed south of the Litani River, but the Israelis have not allowed them to deploy along the Lebanese-Israeli border.

Mr. Peres sees withdrawal from Lebanon, which Israel invaded in June 1982 with the declared aim of rooting out Palestinian commandos, as the key to rebuilding Israel's relations with Egypt and drawing Jordan into peace talks.

Israel wants U.N. troops to patrol the northern part of the area its 12,000 troops would vacate and an Israeli-backed local militia to control the frontier strip.

The Lebanese government insists that its own troops must deploy in all areas vacated by Israel.

At the 11th round of negotiations in Naqura, Israel Thursday threatened to break off the talks unless the Lebanese government accepted the deployment of an enlarged U.N. peacekeeping force in the South.

Mr. Peres has said he is losing patience, and told the newspaper Haaretz this week that if there was no last-minute breakthrough "I am in favour of the army's pulling back to the international border...

being worked out, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who heads the Likud group, publicly contradicted Prime Minister Shimon Peres, the Labour Party chief, over Lebanon.

Some commentators suggested Thursday that the religious funding row could be a prelude to a more fundamental one over southern Lebanon.

Mr. Shamir said on television that Israeli troops occupying southern Lebanon would not pull out until there were adequate security arrangements for Israel's northern borders.

Israeli and Lebanese military officers, trying to negotiate terms for a pullout in talks at Naqura in southern Lebanon, have been deadlocked on who should police the area.

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in time to celebrate mass for the Coptic Christmas. By the calendar of the West's Christian faith that is on Jan. 7.

Pope Shenouda was a soldier and a journalist before becoming a priest. Mr. Sadat banished him at a time when he was also purging Muslim activists and there had been sectarian clashes in one of Cairo's many slums.

Mr. Sadat alleged the Coptic Pope had meddled in politics to encourage sectarian strife between an estimated six or seven million Copts and the overwhelming Muslim majority among the 47 million Egyptians.

The sources said the Pope, leader of a church founded in the first century of the Christian era by Saint Mark, was likely to be freed

and taking the risk."

Mr. Shamir, questioned about possible unilateral withdrawal, said: "No decisions will be taken by this government without my approval and that of the Likud."

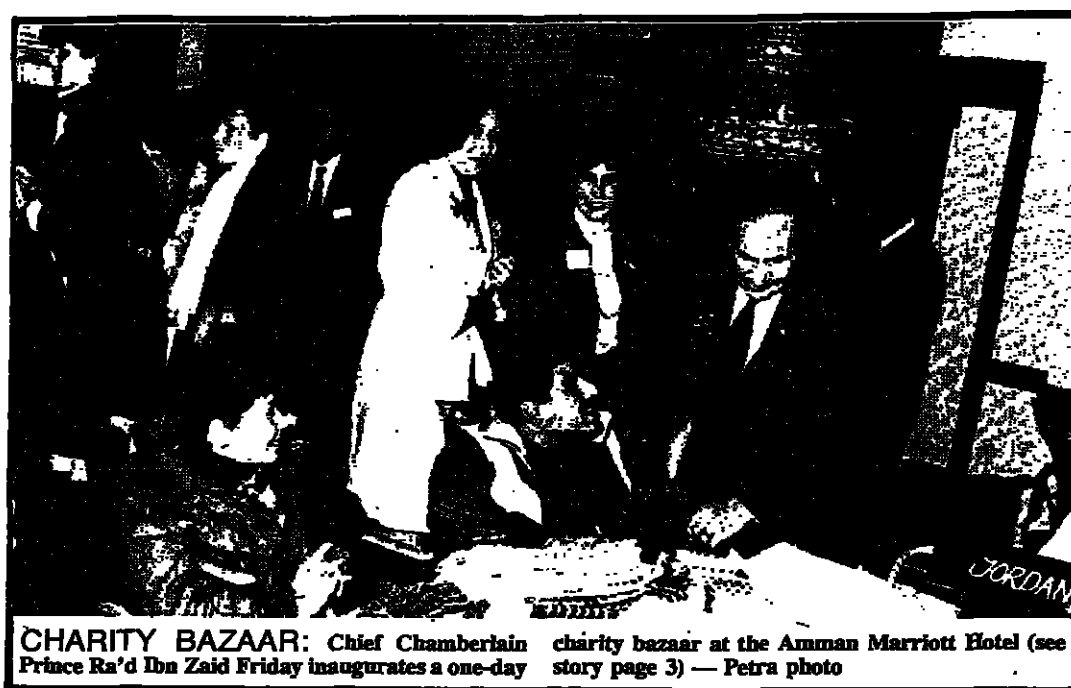
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CHARITY BAZAAR: Chief Chamberlain charity bazaar at the Amman Marriott Hotel (see Prince Ra'ed Ibn Zaid Friday inaugurates a one-day story page 3) — Petra photo

## Chad says Libya still waging war

**N'DJAMENA (R)** — A Libyan military aircraft has flown a reconnaissance mission over government-held positions, showing Libya is still waging war on Chad, N'Djamena Radio said.

The radio said Thursday night a Soviet-built Ilyushin-76 flew Thursday over Arada, 500 kilometres north-east of here.

It repeated earlier government claims that instead of pulling out its troops under an agreement with France last September, Libya was building reinforcements with a view to launching a fresh offensive against the government-held South.

"Libya is really preparing new attacks against government forces," it said, urging Chadians to mobilise to face the challenge.

The radio did not mention Thursday's announcement in Paris that French and Greek military observers were in Tripoli to check on Libyan withdrawal.

The pullout of French and Lib-

yan troops, which have been backing opposing sides in fighting between rebel and government forces in Chad, was due to be completed on Nov. 10. But France admitted later Libya had not honoured the pact. Tripoli insists all its troops have left the country.

French Defence Minister Charles Hernu's remarks to journalists during a visit to a military training school in south west France followed an announcement by External Relations Minister Roland Dumas that French military observers were in Tripoli.

Mr. Hernu's remarks were the first official word that both French and Greek observers would monitor the Libyan withdrawal from Chad.

"French observer officers as well as Greek observer officers are in Tripoli at the moment. These (French) officers were sent by the chief of staff a few days ago. They are there awaiting an observation mission to Chad, with a view to

examining the conditions and monitoring the execution of the agreement of Sept. 17 on military disengagement in Chad," he said.

France, which had 3,500 troops in Chad backing President Hissene Habre against Libyan-supported rebels led by Goukouni Oueddei, withdrew its men after signing a withdrawal agreement with Libya on Sept. 17.

Both sides announced the withdrawal had been completed on Nov. 10 but five days later President Francois Mitterrand met Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi on the Greek island of Crete and afterwards announced Libyan troops were still occupying the northern part of Chad.

Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu engineered the Crete meeting.

There was no indication of how many officers would take part in the observation mission, or how long it would last.

## Libyan leader causes furore at Spanish island news conference

**PALMA, Majorca (R)** — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi warned Spain it was entering a zone of hell and destruction by remaining in NATO and said the two Spanish enclaves in North Africa were Arab.

Col. Qadhafi was talking at a news conference on the Spanish Mediterranean island of Majorca following a five-hour meeting with Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, and his remarks were expected to fuel a growing controversy over his visit.

The Libyan leader, making his second sortie into Western Europe in recent weeks, again denied that there were any Libyan forces in Chad, despite recent French estimates that 3,000 troops were still there.

The white-suited Col. Qadhafi, who frequently smiled and ended the news conference laughing, described the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) as an enemy of the Arab World and added:

"Any state which is related or integrated with NATO is entering a zone of hell and destruction."

His remarks came on the heels of heated debate on NATO at a

national congress of Mr. Gonzalez's Socialist Party which backed his unpopular bid to keep Spain in the alliance.

Much questioning of Col. Qadhafi at the press conference reflected heightened interest in the fate of Ceuta and Melilla — the two Spanish enclaves claimed by Morocco — following the UN pact between Tripoli and Rabat last August.

"Our position on this cause is very clear... Those who worry, why should they worry about Arab cities?" Col. Qadhafi asked.

Asked whether Libya would break out over the enclaves, he said: "These are immature suppositions. I hope the problem will be solved without force."

Col. Qadhafi was also asked whether it was true that his country financed the Basque separatist guerrilla group ETA (Basque Homeland and Freedom) and he flatly denied it.

"We have no relation with this movement," he said.

Mr. Gonzalez's controversial decision to meet Col. Qadhafi enabled the Libyan leader to

make a foray into Europe at a time of growing isolation over his country's activities in Chad and reported involvement in international terrorism.

Spain's leading newspapers expressed outrage at the visit and demanded that Mr. Gonzalez explain it to parliament. El Pais said his presence on Spanish soil was astonishing.

The main opposition, the Rightist Popular Alliance, described the Gonzalez-Qadhafi meeting as shameful.

Diario 16, whose weekly Camilo 16 said Col. Qadhafi had recently given \$900,000 to ETA, described him as "the terrorist who... finances the organisation that represents the main danger threatening Spain's democracy."

The meeting with Mr. Gonzalez, which Col. Qadhafi described as very positive, was arranged by former Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky and followed the Libyan leader's encounter last month with French President Francois Mitterrand and Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu in Crete.

Pressed to explain apparent contradictions in his remarks on

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Masri meets N.Yemeni leader

**SANA'A (Petra)** — North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh Thursday received Jordan's Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and reviewed with him Arab and international issues, listed on the agenda of the Organisation of Islamic Conference's (OIC) foreign ministers meeting, currently held in the North Yemeni capital of Sana'a. Mr. Saleh and Mr. Masri also reviewed bilateral relations in the commercial, economic and technical fields. Mr. Masri also conveyed the greetings of His Majesty King Hussein to the North Yemeni president, who also asked Mr. Masri to convey his best wishes and those of the Yemeni people to King Hussein and the Jordanian people.

### Israelis impose curfew on Dheisheh

**AMMAN (Petra)** — Israeli occupation authorities Thursday clamped a curfew on the Dheisheh Camp for Palestinian refugees near Bethlehem and broke into the houses of the camp and the neighbouring areas in search of Arab citizens, whom the Israeli authorities alleged to have attacked an Israeli military vehicle on Wednesday near the camp. The Israeli authorities searched houses of Arab citizens in the area and arrested a number of them.

### Euro-Arab committee to meet in Rome

**TUNIS (Petra)** — The Euro-Arab dialogue's cultural, labour and social affairs committee will hold a 2-day meeting in Rome on Jan. 14 to discuss a number of topics on cultural and social fields. Participants in the meeting will discuss holding a cultural course in one of the Arab countries, similar to two seminars held earlier in Hamburg and Venice and publishing minutes of these two seminars. They will also discuss issuing an Euro-Arab periodical and the possibility of cooperation in the field of languages and drawing up a directory for cultural and scientific institutions in both Arab and European countries. Organising meetings between Arab and European writers and publishers in addition to officials in charge of radio, television and cinema, will be one of the subjects of discussion during the two-day meeting.

### Egypt considers curbing power use

**CAIRO (R)** — Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali has ordered his government to work on introducing a three-year crash programme to cut electricity use by state agencies by an average of about six per cent annually, officials said. They said the programme, discussed with key advisers, reflects alarm at how rapidly rising power demand threatens to erode a surplus of crude oil now available for export, earning around \$2 billion a year for the cash-pinched economy.

## Israeli coalition overcomes crisis

**TEL AVIV (R)** — Israel's fragile three-month-old coalition government has settled a crisis over religious funding that had threatened to split it apart but now faces ominous discord on the issue of Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

Government leaders overcome a dispute between two small religious groups in the multi-party coalition, persuading the National Religious Party (NRP) and the Sephardi Torah Guardians (Shas) to share control of funds for religious activities.

The dispute, which spurred the Shas to quit the coalition, had brought its main Labour and Likud parties into their first major confrontation as Likud threatened also to resign.

Under a settlement announced Thursday, Shas will control the Interior Ministry and 60 per cent of the budget for Jewish religious activities while the NRP gets the Religious Affairs Ministry and control of the other 40 per cent.

But, even as the accord was

being worked out, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who heads the Likud group, publicly contradicted Prime Minister Shimon Peres, the Labour Party chief, over Lebanon.

Some commentators suggested Thursday that the religious funding row could be a prelude to a more fundamental one over southern Lebanon.

Mr. Shamir said on television that Israeli troops occupying southern Lebanon would not pull out until there were adequate security arrangements for Israel's northern borders.

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## TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	23:00	News Summary
MAIN CHANNEL	23:05	Classical Concert
Morning Programmes	24:00	News Headlines
08:00	08:00	Sports
08:25	08:25	Children's Programme
08:35	08:35	English Teaching
08:50	08:50	First Aid
17:00	17:00	Koran
17:10	17:10	Cartoons
17:50	17:50	Children's Programmes
18:20	18:20	Documentary
18:30	18:30	Local Programme
18:50	18:50	Programme Review
19:30	19:30	News Programme
20:00	20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	20:30	Arabic Series
21:00	21:00	Programme Review
21:30	21:30	Arabic Film
22:00	22:00	News in Arabic
22:10	22:10	Film Contd.
FOREIGN CHANNEL		
17:50	17:50	German Programme
18:00	18:00	French Programme
19:30	19:30	News in French
19:50	19:50	News in Hebrew
20:30	20:30	Comedy: Sorry
21:00	21:00	Saturday Variety Show
22:00	22:00	News in English
22:15	22:15	Feature Film: Car Pool
RADIO JORDAN		
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM		
& partly on 9560 KHz. SW		
07:00	07:00	Light Music
07:30	07:30	News
08:00	08:00	Morning Show
10:00	10:00	News Summary
10:30	10:30	Morning Show
11:00	11:00	News Summary
11:30	11:30	Pop Session
12:00	12:00	News Summary
12:30	12:30	Pop Session
13:00	13:00	News Summary
13:30	13:30	Pop Session
14:00	14:00	News Bulletin
14:30	14:30	Jordan Weekly
15:00	15:00	Concert Hour
16:00	16:00	News Summary
16:30	16:30	Instrumentals
16:50	16:50	Old Favourites
17:00	17:00	Special Feature
17:30	17:30	News Summary
18:00	18:00	News Summary
18:30	18:30	Top Twenty
19:00	19:00	News
19:30	19:30	Good Old Days
20:00	20:00	Just a Minute
21:00	21:00	News Summary
21:30	21:30	Country Music
21:55	21:55	News Summary
22:00	22:00	Play of the Week

## WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	EXHIBITIONS	SERVICE CLUBS	CULTURAL CENTRES	CHURCHES	MUSEUMS	PRAYER TIMES
Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Dec. 22-23.	An art exhibition of oils and watercolours by Nelly (Swiss) at 6:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre until Dec. 22.	A Palestinian national documentary exhibition at 4:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Dec. 24).	Royal Cultural Centre. Tel. 6610267. American Centre. 44371. American Centre Library. 41520. British Council. 36147-8. French Cultural Centre. 37009. Soviet Institute. 41993. Spanish Cultural Centre. 24049. Turkish Cultural Centre. 39777. Haya Arts Centre. 665195. Hussein Youth City. 667181. Y.W.M.C.A. 41793. W.M.A. 664251. Amman Municipal Library. 36111. University of Jordan Library. 843555.	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic). Jabel Amman, tel. 24590. Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic). Jabel Amman, 37440. De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic). Jabel Amman, 66177. Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox). Abadi, 23541. Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer). Jabel Amman, 41559. Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. 771331. Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. 775261. St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox). Ashrafieh, 771751. American International Church (Interdenominational). meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 816534.	Fakhri Museum. Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Ota (Circled Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays. Jewish National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Jewish artists from most of the Jewish communities and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabel Leventeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128. Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum):	05:05 Fajr 06:34 (Sunrise) Duha 11:34 Asr 14:18 Maghrib 18:03 'Isha

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT	MARITIME TRAFFIC	MONEY EXCHANGE	WEATHER
This information is supplied by Air Information Department at the Queen Elizabeth II International Airport, tel. (06) 53250, 53070, 53082, 53171, where it should always be verified.	Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port: — Argosia — Ibn Hazem — Marco Orlovic — Ibn Khalikan — Korat Ouzes — Khraman Maru — Haremad — Tunbolic — Farah One Amin Kawa and Sons Company, Tel. 22524 (six lines) at your service.	Local selling rates in Jls Belgian franc 64.77 65.1 Dutch guilder 115/ 115.7 Egyptian pound 200/ 200 French franc 42/4 42.7 Iraqi dinar 330/60 335.3 Italian lire (for 100) 21/1 21.3 Japanese yen (for 100) 162/7 163.6 Korean dollar 152/25 153.0 Lebanese lira 46/11 47.1 Omani rial 115/ 116.3 Qatari riyal 109/9 110.7 Saudi riyal 113/ 113.8 Swedish crown 45/4 45.7 Swiss franc 157/2 158.2 Syrian lira 39/9 40.9 UAE dirham 109/3 110 U.K. sterling pound 471/9 474.7 U.S. dollar 492/ 495 W. German mark 129/9 130.7	Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. Scattered medium and high clouds will appear with easterly moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm. Low/high temperature in deg. C. Amman 13, Aqaba 21. Humidity readings: Amman 45 per cent, Aqaba 32 per cent. Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 13, Aqaba 21. Humidity readings: Amman 45 per cent, Aqaba 32 per cent.

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

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## EMERGENCIES

Ambulance	193, 775111
Fire, fire, police	199
Blood bank	775121
Civil Defence rescue	661114
Fire headquarters	22090-3
Police rescue	192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters	39141
Traffic police	56390-1
Electric Power Co.	36381-2
Municipal water service	771125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport	(08) 53333

## HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre	813813-32
Al-Kunafri Maternity, J. Amman	44281-4
Al-Khali Maternity, J. Amman	42441
Jabal Amman Maternity	42362
Mathias, J. Amman	36140
Paestine, Shmeisani	660171-4
Shmeisani Hospital	660131
University Hospital	845845
Dar Al-Shafa, J. Hussein	667158
Al-Muhsini Hospital	667227-9
The Islamic, Shmeisani	661164
Al-Ahli, Abdali	666192
Italian, Al-Muhsajreen	777011-3
Al-Bashir, J. Astrafieh	775111
Army, Marka	91611

## NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Ali As'ad 97919

## DRUGS

Dr. Mohammad Ali Abbadi	778959
Mishri pharmacy	770910
Natrouk's pharmacy	23672
Grand Arab pharmacy	24051
Hashemi pharmacy	51699
Maher pharmacy	669337
Ne'in pharmacy	772310

## TAXIS:

Khayyam taxi	41541
Bassim Palace taxi	811857
Siyaha taxi	62945
Husseini taxi	21776
Khalidom taxi	664888
Ahli taxi	21127

## IRBID

Dr. Hamzeh Asagreh	(-)
Hisham pharmacy	5873

## ZARQA:

Dr. Farah Aqrabawi	951923
Al Shaker pharmacy	(-)

## GENERAL

Jordan Television	773111
Radio Jordan	774111
Ministry of Tourism	423111
Hotel complaints	666412
Police complaints	661176
Telephone:	
Information	12
Jordan and Middle East calls	10
Overseas call	17
Cable or telegram	
Repair service	11

## MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in file per kg.

Apple (double red)	240 / 180
Apple (golden)	240 / 180
Apple (pink)	240 / 180
Apple (Marokkan)	280 / 240
Banana (Starkis)	240 / 210
Beans	180 / 150
Broad beans	700 / 600
Cabbage	130 / 100
Chenot	180 / 150
Cayor	650 / 600
Cauliflower	120 / 90
Cucumber	230 / 200
Cucumber (large)	250 / 200
Cucumber (small)	500 / 400
Eggplant (large)	160 / 120
Eggplant (small)	180 / 140
Garlic	130 / 100
Grapefruit	120 / 90
Mellow	300 / 250
Mandarin	140 / 100
Marrow (large)	160 / 120
Marrow (small)	260 / 220
Onion (dry)	170 / 140
Onion (green)	140 / 100
Oranges (Aba Sana)	650 / 530
Oranges (Shamouni)	230 / 180
Parsley	180 / 140
Parley	80 / 80
Pears (American)	540 / 480
Pepper (sweet)	200 / 160
Pepper (spicy green)	240 / 180
Potatoes (local)	190 / 160
Quince	170 / 130
Radishes	90 / 60
Spinach	120 / 90



## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Obeidat receives W. German envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat Thursday received West German Ambassador Hermann Munz who called at the Prime Minister's office to bid farewell on the occasion of the end of his term in Jordan. Mr. Obeidat also received Hungarian ambassador to Jordan Zoltan Szigmund.

## Finance committee discusses budget

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lower House of Parliament financial committee, headed by Khaled Al Haj Hassan, resumed its discussions Thursday on the general budget law for the year 1985. Attending the discussions were Minister of Finance Hanna Odeh and Budget Department Director General Ali Al Gharaibeh.

## Jordanian dies in Iraq car accident

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has received a cable from the Jordanian embassy in Baghdad, to the effect that a Jordanian citizen, Adil Hamdan Said, has been killed as a result of car accident in Anbar Governorate in Iraq.

## Woman injured as car hits electrical pole

AMMAN (J.T.) — A woman, identified as Arsor Malki, was injured in the face when her private car hit an electrical pole Thursday, according to a report in the local Arabic daily Sawt Al Shaab. Eyewitnesses said that the accident occurred when Mrs. Malki tried to avoid a car which was being driven very fast.

## Assassinated PLO member laid to rest

AMMAN (J.T.) — A member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Ismail Darweesh, who was assassinated in Rome last week was buried in Amman Thursday in the presence of senior PLO officials.

The body of Mr. Darweesh was flown here Wednesday and buried in an emotional funeral Thursday. Present at the funeral were Deputy Commander of PLO forces Khalil Al Wazir, Palestine National Council (PNC) Speaker Abdul Hamid Al Saeh, other senior Palestinian officials and members of the deceased's family.

The 33-year old Palestinian was gunned down by an unknown killer shortly after his arrival in the Italian capital from Cyprus. Reports from Rome said that Mr. Darweesh was shot by a person who was riding a motorcycle near one of Rome's big hotels.

The PLO sent its own investigation team to Rome, who on their return, held a meeting in Amman Thursday. PLO officials here refused to disclose the committee's findings so as "not to affect the course of the investigation carried on by the Italian authorities." But Palestinian sources said that the investigation committee's findings confirm that the Israeli intelligence, Savak, plotted the killing.

## Ministry will improve, expand village roads, Nijem says

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works Rayef Nijem Thursday said that the ministry is determined to complete its road projects and to improve and expand village roads, particularly since the road maintenance allocations have now been increased to JD 5 million.

Mr. Nijem, who toured the ministry's projects in Tafleeh district, expressed the hope that all citizens will be able to reach Afra bath by the end of the year to benefit from the mineral waters following the completion of a study for a road to the baths and inviting a tender for implementing earth and concrete works at a cost of JD 300,000.

Speaking about the ministry's projects for next year, Mr. Nijem said that the ministry will complete the construction of a 24-kilometre road connecting the South Cement Factory to the Desert Highway at a cost of JD 4 million. The ministry will also complete work on expanding and improving a number of village roads in Tafleeh district, he added.

When the West Bank was taken, there was no talk of settlements. Now, Israel has made it part of the country, and we are afraid that might happen to South Lebanon," he said.

Mr. Reents said the Green's belief in the injustices of the Israeli occupation was "dramatically reinforced" during the visit, which included meetings with South Lebanese villagers, government ministers and ordinary citizens in Beirut cafes, Reuters said.

"We ask all governments that have good relations with Israel to ask Israel to withdraw from southern Lebanon," he said.

The Greens of West Germany are described as a "rambunctious, militant party of anti-nuclear protesters, peace demonstrators and environmentalists." From their establishment in 1980, the Greens have billed themselves as "anti-party." Since that time, they have attracted young professionals, students and women, as well as a solid bloc of middle-aged West German voters dissatisfied with "politics-as-usual." By 1982 Greens deputies sat in six of the country's 11 local parliaments. Then, in the March 1983 national elections, the fledgling group won 5.6 per cent of the popular vote and 28 seats in the Bundestag.



MARIAM VISITS MUSEUM: Her Majesty Queen Noor and Her Royal Highness Princess Haya Mariam of Brunel (second right) Thursday visit the Museum of Jordanian Traditional Life at the Roman amphitheatre where they were briefed by Department of Antiquities Director Adnan Al Hadidi (Petra photo)

## Ra'd inaugurates Al Hussein charity bazaar; Majda requests funds for handicapped centre

By Sa'ad G. Hattar  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — His Highness Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, the chief chamberlain, Friday inaugurated a one-day charity bazaar at the Amman Marriott Hotel. The proceeds of bazaar, organised by the Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped, will go to the Amman Centre for Education and Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped.

Her Highness Princess Majda told the Jordan Times that the annual bazaar aims to raise funds for the poor and the handicapped in Jordan. She said that this year's bazaar displayed many kinds of items and that several companies and institutions actively participated; shops offered 50 per cent of the proceeds of their goods at the bazaar for the handicapped.

Princess Majda said that the items which are not sold will be exhibited at the society's centre which is located at Jabal Amman between the Seventh and Eighth Circles.

Speaking about the society Princess Majda said the centre, which was opened by His Majesty King Hussein in March 1984, aims to meet the needs of 80 elementary school students who are unable to attend ordinary schools because of their physical disabilities.

She added that the society, a joint project by the Queen Alia Welfare Fund and the Al Hussein Society, was built on a land donated by King Hussein. The first stage of the building includes residential accommodation which has been financed by the Sultanate of Oman, while the second stage, which is not yet financed, will offer vocational training to 60 trainees with a view to employment, both open and sheltered, according to their disabilities, she continued.

Princess Majda called on the public to give a helping hand to those who are "suffering in our society." She said: "The whole project urgently needs large and small donations, both for the second stage buildings and for sponsorship of individual students and trainees throughout their course."

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## Power producers, distributors conclude talks

## Arab energy experts call for electrical industries company

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-day meeting and working group on electrical power producers and distributors in the Arab World concluded Thursday with a call for establishing an Arab company for electrical industries to be directly supervised by the electric power producing and distributing institutions.

Participants in the two-day meeting also stressed the importance of establishing an Arab federation for producers and distributors of electric power in the Arab World.

Participants at the meeting adopted a recommendation entrusting the present follow-up committee, grouping the under-secretary of public works, electricity and water in Bahrain, the president and director general of the Tunisian Electric Company, director general of the Jordan Electricity Authority and representatives of the Arab Economic and Social Development Fund and the Arab Industrial Development Organisation with following up on the issue of manufacturing electric tools and equipment.

They also charged the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) with drawing up a formula for the Arab company which will manufacture electric tools and equipment.

The JEA was also charged with drawing up the proposed formula for the constituent regulation of the Arab federation for electric power producers and distributors.

Speaking about the importance of the meetings, the acting director general of the JEA said that the meeting provided a good opportunity for participants to exchange information and expertise through reviewing working papers and detailed studies on electric power in each Arab country.

The spokesman added that the JEA commenced with this study two years ago with the aim of forecasting the demand for energy and electricity during the coming five or ten years in order to prepare an energy generation expansion study in the light of these forecasts.

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## Greens team due in Amman

(Continued from page 1)

Miss Heinrich, 43, was elected to the European Parliament last June as the Greens Party pick. Up 8.2 per cent of the West German electorate. The Israeli decision to deny entry to the Greens came as the latter started their tour of the region, in Beirut.

At the conclusion of a five-day visit to Lebanon, the delegation announced it will demand a European parliamentary investigation of the Israeli occupation of South Lebanon, Reuters said in a dispatch from Beirut.







# Why does a Jordanian write in English?



## Talking straight Marwan Muasher

I CHOOSE to write today about a topic that I have hitherto considered of a personal nature. The title of this article represents a question that I have continuously asked myself since I started writing to the Jordan Times two years ago, but also one that has been increasingly asked of me by many readers. I write today not as

much in defence of those of us writing in English as to raise some points which transcend the personal level.

There are two sides that govern how and why a writer writes the way he/she does: technical and moral. Technically speaking, a writer uses that form or structure which he/she is most comfortable with. I, as well as many others in the J.T., write in English because technically it is easier for us. That might sound strange coming from someone whose mother tongue is Arabic. But for many who have been educated abroad for a long time and especially at character-forming ages, the thought-process often changes to suit the language and culture they were educated in. It is not that our Arabic is poor, rather that we have learnt to think in English, with all the connotations this process has on an article's form and content.

The moral issue is a bit more sticky. It is a fact that one can tackle a wider variety of issues in the J.T. in more open ways than in any of our Arabic dailies. The limited circulation, language and type of readership of the J.T. are all barriers standing against it being

read by the Jordanian public at large. It is therefore "permissible" for one writing in English to be more blunt than his colleague or himself writing in Arabic. A writer, no doubt, finds this point particularly attractive. Initially, therefore, these technical and moral points constitute two very strong driving forces behind writing in English.

Time, however, gives way to many other considerations. A writer has to decide at some point what type of readership he/she wants to reach. He/she has to resolve the question of why and to whom he/she is writing. In the case of the J.T., this presents a dilemma. One needs to address the issue of who reads the Jordan Times?

This is a question that I have no clear answer to. There are no concrete statistics on the subject, but it would be fair to say that the percentage of foreigners reading it is far greater than that of Arabs, although the story is somewhat different in absolute numbers. If I have to guess, I would say a few thousand foreigners read it, and perhaps a slightly fewer number of Arabs.

For a writer who has the foreign community in mind, the

issue is settled. The purpose of writing in such a case is usually to present the foreigners with a local point of view on a variety of issues. Writing in English here is totally justified, as the issues and the readership dictate the language articles are written in.

Although I have written some articles with the foreign community in mind, most of my articles are intended to address the Jordanian public. It is here where a significant debate is rightly raised. It is obvious that I am only writing to a very small number of those I wish to reach, one that is often claimed to be sympathetic to my views anyway. The argument that is often raised against me by many Jordanian friends is that I am addressing the wrong readership, and in the process all what is achieved is "to expose our mess to the foreigners".

A foreigner's typical reaction to my articles, it is claimed, is: "See, even Jordanians are unflattering in their views about their own country".

It is undoubtedly frustrating to know that one is not reaching the whole readership one wants to reach. This is a writer's biggest worry. For while

some write for the sake of writing and thus are overly concerned about style or structure, I'd like to believe that a writer's main concern, and purpose as well, is to convey ideas as clearly as he/she can.

No writer is content, therefore, to have a limited readership. But the question of whether the solution to the problem is writing in Arabic has more sides to it than meet the eye. It is still an ongoing debate in my own mind, one that I have not been able to completely resolve yet.

The technical question of the "thought-process" is one that is solved by time, and thus does not need much elaboration. As one lives in this society, he/she regains the lost feelings associated with all the intricacies that together form an understanding of the culture one lives in. With time, one's Arabic might not ever become as articulate or sound as one's English, but time would allow it to be good enough as to convey the message across by means of a thought process more harmonious to the culture.

The moral questions present a far bigger challenge. Considering the freedom one has

writing in English, the question arises of whether it is justifiable to write to a few educated sector of Jordanians, even though in the process one is also "exposing our mess to the foreigners"? Is this small sector necessarily sympathetic to the ideas I write about? If so, is it still worth it to write for them, in the hope of forming a small but effective nucleus of educated citizens able to lobby for their view of where our society should head? Or is this vision too optimistic? Does writing to this sympathetic sector encourage more educated people to voice their opinions publicly? If so, isn't it at least partly effective?

What about foreigners? Should we hide our heads in the sand and pretend nothing is wrong lest foreigners ridicule us? Are foreigners not aware of our problems just because we do not write about them? Can we assume that all foreigners make fun of us? Could it be that some of them respect a little objectivity whenever we are willing to take a harder look at ourselves? After all, aren't we the ones who respect so many "foreign" societies whom we consider more "open" and "democratic"?

The questions are endless. But to handle the first part of the problem, i.e. writing in English, I feel it is important to have a frank, unedited, look at our problems, and to voice our concerns publicly and clearly. If in the process, we invite the ridicule of some foreigners, so be it. This cannot, and should not, stand in the way of a continuous process of re-evaluation of our ideals and goals on our part.

That ideal talk is all fine, so why don't I write in Arabic to hope to achieve it? Another set of questions is immediately triggered here. If the type of subjects I wish to tackle are constantly "edited" in Arabic, where does one draw the line? Should a writer compromise some or many of his ideas in return for a broader readership, even though that could mean a total or partial eclipse of whatever he intended to say? Or should he continue to write uncompromisingly, but to a limited readership which is often apathetic? Of course, what determines an acceptable compromise varies from one writer to another, and anyway depends on a variety of factors. Among all these questions

and counterquestions, one shameful fact stands clear to me. The crux of the matter is this: We are unable to say in our own language that which we can in a foreign one. I sincerely doubt that any writer would not jump at the opportunity of writing in Arabic, given that he has the ability, but more importantly the freedom.

A justification? May be. Perhaps we are not doing enough to try writing in Arabic. Perhaps a bit of a compromise is not too bad if that means reaching larger spectra of people. And again, perhaps too much compromise defeats the very purpose for which a writer writes. This latter point obviously describes the way I feel about writing. If I am not yet good enough to be able to put my ideas in Arabic in a way where they will not be censored, and if the ideas I write now are not acceptable to the Arabic dailies, then I would rather stay writing in English to a limited readership. I am certain, however, that our aim as writers continues to be writing in Arabic that which we are doing in English, and I hope that we will seriously work towards the day when that goal is achieved.

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## 'Hepatitis B' cases increase in U.S.

By Christine Russell

WASHINGTON — Health experts have warned of a rapid increase in the United States of cases of hepatitis B, a serious viral disease that can lead to death from liver cancer or cirrhosis. They urged a major national push to vaccinate high-risk groups against the disease.

Dr. James Mason, head of the U.S. centres for Disease Control, said Thursday that the incidence of the disease has risen 68 per cent since 1978, to 200,000 infections last year. "In anyone's book, it is one of the top killers and cripples in the United States," he said.

Major health groups, including the centres, released new scientific evidence to support assurances that a vaccine to prevent the disease, available since 1982 but not yet widely used, is safe and effective.

"It is clear, absolutely clear, that this vaccine is safe," Dr. Mason said, dismissing what he called unfounded fears that the vaccine might transmit AIDS, or

acquired immune deficiency syndrome, which is usually fatal.

The hepatitis B warning coincided with two other major health developments.

The agency said there would be a severe shortage in the coming year of a combination vaccine to protect children against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough). It called for an immediate postponement of follow-up shots for children 18 months and older "until greater supplies are available."

Dr. Mason said that he did not expect disease outbreaks to result, since infants at greatest risk still would get shots, while older children would carry immunity from their initial shots.

A British journal reported the first documented case of a health care worker becoming infected with the AIDS virus after accidental exposure to blood from a patient with the disease. U.S. officials, concerned about reaction among health workers, cautioned that with adequate precautions the risk to health care workers still

appears to be quite small.

"AIDS has affected more than 7,000 Americans since it was identified in 1981, killing nearly half of them. The disease is found predominantly among sexually active homosexual men and intravenous drug abusers. It is spread by a virus through sexual contact and through blood and body fluids, and its route of transmission is similar to that of hepatitis B.

Hepatitis B is also spread through sexual contact, contaminated needles, from carrier mothers to infants and through contact with body fluids. Although far less deadly, it is a far greater public health problem. But because it has been around longer, people have been less concerned. Dr. Mason said. If it were discovered today, he said, "people would be just as concerned about hepatitis B as they are about AIDS today."

Because the hepatitis B virus is difficult to grow in the laboratory, the vaccine is produced from blood products taken from hepatitis carriers, such as homosexual

men, who are the same groups at greatest risk of carrying AIDS in their blood.

But the study results released by the disease centres and New York researchers, in conjunction with the vaccine manufacturer, Merck, Sharp & Dohme, documented that the AIDS virus is not present in the vaccine and that any virus originally in the blood would have been killed by chemicals used in the production process.

About 200 million people worldwide, including a million Americans, are chronic carriers of hepatitis B, Dr. Mason said. Each year, experts noted 200,000 more Americans are infected, with about 50,000 developing serious signs of the disease such as jaundice and 10,000 needing hospitalisation.

Hepatitis B is generally a disease of young adults from 15 to 40, he said. It has risen from about 40 cases per 100,000 Americans in 1979 to an expected level of almost 70 cases per 100,000 this year — Washington Post.

## Sultan of Brunei ends three-day visit to Jordan

(Continued from page 1)

concerning the future role of Brunei as an Islamic nation", the official said. "We are trying to assert the political role of Brunei as an Islamic country," said the official, who requested not to be named.

King Hussein has urged Brunei to assume its role as an Islamic nation in support of Arab and Islamic causes. He specifically pointed out to the Gulf war as an area where Brunei could make important contributions by using its good relations with Iran to stop the war.

In his turn the Sultan expressed full support for the Palestinian cause and declared his country's stance on the issue.

"The only solution for the Middle East conflict can be achieved by giving the Palestinians their

right to self-determination," he said.

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat visited Brunei last spring and was received with a very warm welcome by the Brunei people. A Palestinian official, who accompanied Mr. Arafat in the trip, said then that "it was an unbelievable and unforgettable popular reception. People literally carried Arafat in Brunei."

Yet, the small, but extremely wealthy, nation is very conservative and has no relations in any field with the socialist bloc. "We maintain long-standing relations with the United States but have no relations whatsoever with the communist countries," the Brunei delegation member said.

"We are a Muslim nation and

oppose communism."

"In this aspect I guess that we are just like Saudi Arabia," he added.

The Sultan arrived in Jordan Wednesday after visits to Oman and Egypt and was accorded a very warm reception.

On Thursday, the King accompanied his guest in a tour of military sites including the Army Headquarters and the Hussein Medical Centre and several army units. The Sultan was briefed on the history of the Jordanian Armed Forces and watched instant take-off exercises performed by the Royal Jordanian Air Force at the Martyrs' Mouwafaq Al Sali Military base.

Official sources told the Jordan Times that both sides have agreed to cultural exchanges and that

Jordan will help in training Brunei's military officers.

The sources did not explain whether this will involve sending military experts to Brunei or bringing Brunei military officers to Jordan for training programmes.

Sultan Muda and Princess Mariam and the accompanying delegation left Amman Friday after the visit for an unknown destination. They were seen off at the airport by King Hussein, Queen Noor, His Highness Prince Mohammad, other royal family members, Royal Court officials, Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat, and cabinet members, the speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament and senior military and civil officials.

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## Bayern beats Egypt's National

CAIRO (R) — Bayern Munich of West Germany dazzled Egyptian fans Friday with a display of world-class soccer to beat Egypt's National club of Cairo 2-1 in a friendly match here.

Bayern, who lost 1-2 to Egypt's Zamalek on Wednesday in another friendly, proved too much for National. Although on top of the home league with maximum points from nine matches, the Egyptian side failed to match Bayern's imagination and speed.

A two-minute burst in the second half produced a goal apiece with Bayern striker Dieter Hoen-

ness opening in the 53rd minute with a left-footed drive.

National equalised a minute later when substitute Samir Fawzy volleyed a cross from teammate Alaa Mayhoub.

Bayern's winner was the delight of the match. West German international Lothar Matthäus beat three National defenders before finding the target with a drive ins-

ide the right-hand post.

National's substitute goalkeeper Ahmed Shoubir, who came on in the second half, pulled off a spectacular save when Matthäus completed another dazzling solo run with a fine drive.

National looked like they might steal a draw in the last 10 minutes but their repeated forays failed to beat the Bavarian side's defence led by captain Klaus Augenthaler.

National meet Cameroon's Canon Yaounde on Dec. 30 in the second leg of the African Cup Winners' Cup finals. The Egyptians are one goal up.

## Mayotte out of South Australian tennis open

ADELAIDE (R) — American Tim Mayotte suffered further embarrassment Friday when he was knocked out of the South Australian Open Tennis Championships by unseeded Peter Doohan.

The Australian, who had to save a match point in the final set tie-breaker, won 4-6, 6-2, 7-6 against the number two seed, whose nickname of 'Gentleman Time' failed to save him from an \$850 fine for an audible obscenity against Britain's Jonathan Smith Thursday.

Doohan will now feature in an all-Australian semifinal against local idol John Fitzgerald, a 6-3, 6-3 winner over third-seeded

Czechoslovak Miloslav Mecir.

The other semifinal will bring together defending champion Mike Bauer of the U.S. and Dutchman Huub van Boeckel, who beat Australian John Frawley 7-6, 6-4.

Friday's victory will take Doohan into the top 100 in the world rankings for the first time — a good way to end 1984 for a player who joined the professional circuit at the relatively late age of 23.

"A lot of people said I was too old to start or that I was over the hill at 23. But I just wasn't strong enough at 16 or 17 to go out on the pro-circuit," explained Doohan.

## Dutch must beat Cyprus to keep World Cup hopes alive

NICOSIA (R) — The once-mighty Netherlands, pointless and seemingly hopeless at the foot of their World Cup qualifying group, must beat Cyprus to have any chance of reaching the 1986 finals in Mexico.

That is the blunt truth manager Rinus Michels will emphasise again to his side as they run out here on Sunday for their third Group Five qualifying soccer tie.

The Dutch, managed by Michels when they finished runners-up in the 1974 and 1978 finals after being beaten by West Germany and Argentina, have lost qualifying matches against Hungary and Austria this year.

Now victory is essential if they

are to keep alive their fast fading hopes of snatching a 'back door' ticket to Mexico by finishing second in the group and advancing via the playoff.

But the Cypriots, buoyed by their 1-0 win over Luxembourg earlier this week, their first home win against an international side in nine years, will not surrender easily.

Michels sent his assistant Dick Advocaat to watch Cyprus's 2-1 defeat by Hungary last month.

"They're tough and work hard. They know how to defend and could give us a hard time."

The Hungarians, with a maximum six points from their three matches, have a firm grip on the table. They lead by two points from second-placed Austria on four.

Cyprus are also pointless and have the same goal difference as the Dutch. But they occupy third place courtesy of having scored two goals, one more than the Netherlands.

Dutch hopes will be pinned on strikers Peter Houtman and Marco van Basten, while defender Ernie Brandts will shoulder most of the responsibility for thwarting any Cypriot counter attacks.

Cypriot manager Panicos Iacovou plans to field the same side which narrowly lost to Hungary. It will be his side's last home match of the qualifying campaign.

## Jepson crowned champion

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — David Jepson, a Briton living in Jordan for the past three years, was Thursday crowned as the National Rally champion of 1984.

At a special ceremony held at the Royal Automobile Club (RAC), organisers of the National Rally, the club's chairman, ex-Minister of Trade and Industry Walid Asfour, presented trophies to Jepson, who had scored on aggregate total of 176 points in six rallying events organised by the club, and three other winners.

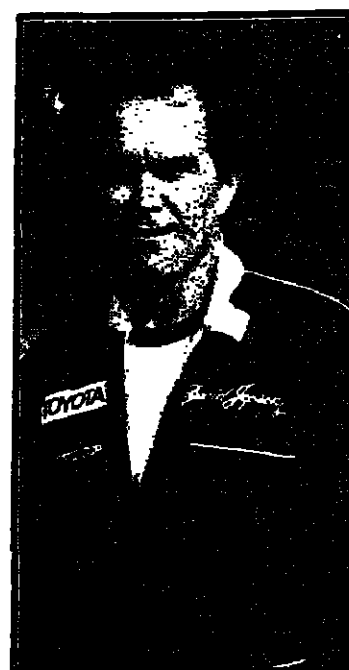
Anthony Walker, another British resident of Jordan, was placed second with 140 points, George Khayyat and George Haddad, both Jordanians, were placed third and fourth with 140 and 106 points respectively.

In naming the national champion of the year, the RAC took into consideration all rallying events held in Jordan in 1984, including the fourth leg of the Middle East Rally Championship and auto-tests sponsored by La Brioche and the National Press, in addition to the actual racing events sponsored by Petra Bank, Beituna and Daihatsu. A speed test, which was scheduled to be held on Dec. 14 as a climax to the year's events, was called off at the last minute because of bad weather.

Jepson, 40, a quantity surveyor working with the Laing group of companies, has over 12 years of rallying experience behind him. He had his wife, Barbara, as co-driver in racing a Toyota Starlet to win the first leg of the National Rally, and the La Brioche auto test, and to score 16 and 28 points in the Beituna and Daihatsu rallies respectively, both of which he had to abandon because of a mechanical failure and an accident.

In the Jordan leg of the Middle East Rally Championship, where he was placed fourth with 64 points, Jepson had a British male as his co-driver.

Walker and Khayyat both drove Nissan cars to score their victories in the National Rally, while Haddad, who represented Jordan in the Dubai leg of the Middle East Rally Championship held earlier this month, was behind the wheel of a Toyota Celica. Haddad was



David Jepson — 1984 rally champion

placed fifth in the Dubai rally, the first-ever leg of the Middle East Rally Championship to be attended by a Jordanian.

According to the rankings list drawn up by the RAC, the following were placed in positions fifth to tenth, out of a total of 76 participants.

Haile Aguiar, George Rizk, Suhail Marar, Nabil Dirani and Hassan Alaedine (both shared the eighth place with 60 and 53 points respectively), Tareq Bilbeisi and Ziad Bustami.

The 1984 event was the first national championship event to be organised by the RAC in about 20 years. Speaking at Thursday's ceremony, RAC General Manager

Derek Ledger praised "the spirit of sportsmanship" of the contestants reflected in the most orderly conduct of the rallying events and thanked the local authorities, police and the press for their contribution in making the event a success.

Mr. Ledger promised to enhance the club's sporting activities and specifically expressed hope that the National Rally, championship of 1985 will be much wider in scope and participation.

The National Rally is open to all permanent residents of Jordan, regardless of nationality, and the RAC hopes to make it an annual event. According to Mr. Ledger, "the spirit of rallying is growing rapidly in Jordan." He pointed out to the presence of a large number of specially equipped rally cars in the country and said by every consequent rallying event the number of participants is increasing steadily.

Haddad told the Jordan Times Thursday that "people tend to consider rallying as just another form of racing or speeding, whereas rallies are in fact one of the safest motor sports."

"How many accidents do we have in every rally?" he asked.

"Even conceding that there had been one or two serious mishaps in the entire year's rallying events, how many were seriously injured?"

He referred to an accident he himself had in the Jordan leg of the Middle East Rally Championship, when his car somersaulted several times before landing on its back. Haddad's brother, Nabil, who was co-driving the vehicle, suffered the only injury in the mishap — a broken arm.

## Ireland's McGuigan retains title

BELFAST (R) — Barry McGuigan moved a significant step nearer a world title fight when he knocked out Clyde Ruan to retain his European and British featherweight boxing titles Wednesday night.

The talented Northern Irishman wound up an outstandingly successful year with as good a left hook as he has ever thrown to dump Ruan on his back near the end of the fourth round.

Ruan, who had not been sto-

pped before in 23 fights, was in the act of rising as referee Larry O'Connell counted him out.

It was a result that had looked inevitable from the moment the 23-year-old Irishman began to step up the pace after using a couple of rounds to see what the challenger had to offer.

Ruan's only solid scoring blows in a contest which grew more and more one-sided were a right to the champion's chin in the second round and another in the fourth.

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# OECD predicts bright outlook for West

PARIS (R) — Economic prospects in the non-communist world are now better than at any time in the past decade, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) said Thursday.

But unemployment, at record highs in many countries, shows little sign of falling except in the United States, and policymakers are likely to face tricky decisions next year.

The Paris-based institution said overall prospects for output and inflation in its 24 members "now appear as good as, or better than, at any time since the watershed year of 1973," when oil exporters boosted prices and triggered a recession.

"There is reason to hope that most economies have emerged or are emerging from the period of apparently chronic stagflation (stagnating growth and inflation)," the OECD said in an end-of-year report on the outlook for the industrial economies.

## Problems persist

But at the same time, obvious problems remained.

"With the exception of the U.S. and Japan, together with a few smaller countries, high unemployment rates have become entrenched and show no signs of falling," the report said.

Despite progress in controlling inflation, price stability remained uncertain in most countries.

International prospects were also clouded by protectionism, potential debt crises and the uncertain impact of massive U.S. trade and federal budget deficits.

"These problems are deep-rooted and none is likely to disappear quickly," it said.

At a press conference dealing with the report, OECD chief economist Mr. David Henderson said the United States and Japan would continue to outstrip Western Europe's economic performance next year after surging ahead in 1984.

Fourth-quarter U.S. estimates published Wednesday confirmed OECD forecasts that the American Gross National Product (GNP) should rise by three per cent a year through 1986, he said.

That would be sharp slowdown from this year's estimated 6.75 per cent, but still above the two to 2.5 per cent expansion predicted for Western Europe, he added.

Meanwhile Japan seems set to take the lead in the growth race, with a four to five per cent annual rise in GNP over the next 18 months, Mr. Henderson said.

Despite the disappointing results, European governments were generally following sound policies and there were no obvious alternatives to more of the same, Mr. Henderson commented.

The report said a key issue for governments next year would be hitting the right mix of tax, monetary and structural policies to hold down prices and boost employment.

The right choices could help internationally as well as domestically by reducing a yawning performance gap between the U.S. and the rest of the world.

In the first two years of the current recovery about 70 per cent of

demand growth in the OECD area originated in America, the report noted.

U.S. expansion sucked in exports from the rest of the world and "the sustainability of the U.S. recovery continues to have wide significance for the world economy as a whole," it said.

What happened to the U.S. economy could depend as much on international investor confidence as on Washington, it added.

It was possible that high profits on investment in American industry could keep pulling in foreign capital, of setting the U.S. trade deficit and helping the dollar to a "soft landing" as other economies gradually caught up.

But a failure by Washington to curb the trade and budget deficits could equally trigger a hot money outflow, a slump in the dollar, a hike in interest rates and a new burst of inflation, the report said.

On the trade front, exports from industrial nations were likely to slow to a four to five per cent annual growth rate by early 1986 from 10 per cent early this year.

With many developing countries still suffering from low commodity prices and debt problems, trade between industrial countries was likely to expand faster than world trade in the next two years, the report said.

"Exports to the U.S. are likely to be the most dynamic element, albeit a weakening one," and on a current account basis there were no signs yet of a narrowing in the U.S. deficit, it added.

OECD projections indicated the U.S. current account payments deficit could widen to more than \$140 billion a year by the first half of 1986 from a record \$100 billion this year.

In contrast Japan was likely to raise its current account payments surplus to nearly \$50 billion a year from this year's \$30 billion while Western Europe should also experience a positive swing of some \$15 billion between 1984 and early 1986, the OECD's economists said.

On balance the interaction between the U.S., Japan and Western Europe had so far been good for the world economy, while rapid growth in international trade over the past 18 months had helped ward off the once-feared international debt crisis, the report said.

But margins for manoeuvre remained extremely tight if a new debt crunch was to be avoided, it said, adding:

"If recovery proceeds as all countries hope, the fundamental conditions for a gradual resolution of the debt situation should be in place."

"But there is little room to fall short on any aspect. Were events to evolve significantly less favourably over the next two years, the reverberations... could again have a strong worldwide macro-economic impact, as they did in 1982," the report noted.

## U.S. deficits overshadow brisk growth

Meanwhile, in separate forecasts for individual countries, the OECD showed that the U.S. budget and balance of payments def-

icits are likely to widen in the next 18 months, keeping interest rates quite high and slowing growth.

The OECD's twice-yearly economic outlook forecast real economic growth of three per cent for the United States next year, with the federal deficit rising to \$189.3 billion from \$170.3 billion this year.

With the business sector likely to absorb surplus private-sector savings, financing of the general government deficit will have to come entirely from overseas borrowing, it said.

The balance of payments deficit is predicted at more than \$120 billion in 1985.

"This will constitute a severe constraint on the growth of U.S. GNP," the report said.

It forecast a slight rise in U.S. interest rates next year.

Inflation and wage increases will remain moderate and business investment, though slowing from exceptionally high rates registered in the last 18 months, will continue to play a strong role in the expansion, the report forecasts.

Unemployment will fall slightly in the next 18 months and consumption, buoyed by higher employment and low inflation, will grow despite a higher savings ratio, the OECD said.

Real disposable income is also expected to rise, while housebuilding and other interest-sensitive investments will probably slow as the deficit pushes rates back up.

U.S. exports, which have performed well despite a sharp rise in the dollar against other currencies, are forecast to continue growing, though not enough to offset booming imports.

Import growth should slow in 1985, the report said, but imports will still rise by 12-1/2 per cent after leaping at an annualised rate of 32-1/2 per cent in the first half of the 1984.

France to face slow growth, lower inflation

The OECD forecasts that France will continue to experience slow growth and falling inflation next year under the influence of its 21-month-old austerity programme.

Industrial investment is expected to rise in real terms, while rising exports help to cut the trade deficit to \$2.5 billion in 1985 from \$3.75 billion this year and \$8.21 billion in 1983, the OECD said.

France's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), the widest measure of the economy's performance, is seen growing by two per cent in 1985, up from 1.75 per cent this year.

The report predicts that consumer price inflation will fall to 6.5 per cent in the first half of 1985 from 7.25 per cent in 1984 and 9.4 per cent in 1983. The government maintains that it could fall as low as 5.4 per cent by the end of next year.

"The labour market situation is likely to continue deteriorating, and the unemployment rate may reach 11 per cent in the first half of 1986," the OECD said.

## Forecast questions economic realism of Italian government

The OECD report showed that

key Italian government assumptions about inflation and public sector borrowing trends next year appear to be unrealistic.

It said Italy, after a sharp economic upturn this year, could face slower growth, continuing high inflation and higher trade and current account deficits in 1985.

In particular, a budget plan to cut general government borrowing to 12.1 per cent of GDP from 13.5 per cent this year "rests on an inflation assumption that is 1.5 percentage points lower than the OECD forecast."

The OECD expects consumer price inflation barely to ease to just under eight per cent a year in the first half of 1986 from around 8.6 per cent now, and the general government borrowing requirement to fall only to 13.1 per cent of GDP.

The Italian government has targeted a seven per cent average inflation rate for 1985, implying a rate well below six per cent by the end of the year.

The OECD forecast that Italy's GDP could grow by a real 2.5 per cent in 1985, down from three per cent this year.

## W. German recovery depends on export demand

West Germany will continue to enjoy a modest economic recovery next year, but it will depend strongly on export demand and is unlikely to make much impact on unemployment, the OECD said.

West Germany's export markets are expected to grow by about six per cent in 1985, while the competitiveness of German exports should continue to improve helped by moderate cost and price increases, the report added.

The country's trade surplus, forecast to fall to \$21.75 billion this year from \$23.25 billion in 1983, will rise to \$27 billion next year as the growth of exports exceeds that of imports, the OECD predicted.

The current account balance of payments is expected to be in surplus by \$7.25 billion next year, up from \$2.25 billion this year.

Despite an economic upswing for almost two years, the West German labour market has shown few signs of improvement.

## Japanese economic miracle seems set to continue

For Japan the OECD predicted that an economic miracle seems set to continue next year, with faster than expected growth, sustained investment, a rising trade surplus and low inflation.

"Real GNP is forecast to grow by 5.75 per cent in 1984 and around five per cent in 1985, more strongly than predicted six months ago," the OECD said.

Private consumption should rise by about four per cent over the next 18 months, with pay packets swelled by bonuses in the wake of higher company profits.

At the same time companies were investing heavily in new high-technology industries: "This apparent wave of technical innovation is judged likely to sustain investment through 1985."

Healthy export markets and a steady currency should add up to a boom in Japanese sales abroad, the OECD said.

Japan's trade surplus should rise steadily to an annual rate of over \$55 billion by the first half of 1986 from an estimated \$42 billion this year.

At the same time continued current account surpluses could raise Japan's net external assets to a massive \$130 billion by mid-1986 from about \$37 billion at end-1983.

## Coal strike clouds Britain's prospects

Finally, the OECD forecasts that Britain's economic prospects for 1985 hinge on an end to its coalminers' strike.

The OECD said the nine-month-old strike had cut British growth by about a third this year, pushed the government's monetary policies off target and driven British trade into a deepening deficit.

An early end to the dispute would give a quick boost to the economy, with the country's GDP growing somewhat faster than the West European average and current account payments reaching a rough balance in 1985 after a likely deficit of \$1.5 billion this year, it said.

"If the strike has not ended by the turn of the year, the 1985 forecast would have to be written down accordingly and a more pessimistic scenario would be almost inevitable," it said.

# OPEC draws new plan

GENEVA (R) — Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) oil ministers adjourned a crucial conference Friday to seek approval from their governments for a proposed system to monitor members' oil transactions and prevent breaches of OPEC agreements.

The plan aims to prevent widespread flouting of OPEC rules which has seriously dented the group's credibility.

The ministers approved it in principle Friday morning before adjourning their meeting here until Dec. 27 to allow them to consult their heads of state, delegates said.

Kuwait Oil Minister Ali Khalifa Al Sabah, a member of a committee which worked out the plan, said it proposed "a detailed auditing system to monitor sales, volumes and prices."

The oil ministers of Algeria and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) said the new ministerial monitoring committee would have wide powers to inspect each country's crude and refined oil products and exports.

"The members will have to accept inspection on their territory," Algerian Minister Belkacem Nabi said.

Conference delegates said the plan received the unanimous personal support of all 13 ministers. But Mr. Abdul Hadi Kandeel, oil minister of non-OPEC Egypt, who is attending the conference as

an observer, made it clear that Cairo would not be joining the planned system.

The oil ministers of Venezuela, Libya, Algeria, Gabon, Ecuador and Nigeria said they were confident the idea of a monitoring agency would work once it had top-level approval.

Others would not talk to reporters and delegates said some did not wish to preempt decision by their leaders.

Reflecting some apprehension about the powers that may be exercised by OPEC over member governments, the Ecuador delegate, Deputy Oil Minister Fernando Santos Alvarado, said: "If it does not affect our sovereignty, then we support it."

Meanwhile traders on the European spot oil market said Friday they gave the OPEC plan to monitor the group's output and pricing little chance of success.

The traders said the idea was likely to run into strong opposition from some OPEC governments as it touched on sensitive areas of national sovereignty and security.

Prices on the European free market Friday continued the weak

trend that triggered OPEC's efforts to restore its control.

Traders were seeking to buy oil from Britain's North Sea Brent field at \$26.40 a barrel, \$2.25 below the British National Oil Corporation (BNOC) official price. They expected even greater opposition from some governments in the volatile Middle East region over the sovereignty issue.

"Do you see the Iraqis and Iranians willingly giving information on their oil exports?" one trader asked.

Both states rely heavily on oil sales to finance their four-year-old war against each other. Iraq's attacks on neutral tankers using the Kharg Island oil terminal have been aimed at strangling Iran's economy.

Insurance rates for tankers visiting Kharg have risen sharply this month as Iraq stepped up missile attacks following a six-week lull.

Iran's only way of attracting demand for its oil was to offer discounts on official prices to offset the high cost of shipping, normally borne by the buyer, the traders said.

Even if the OPEC plan were accepted by heads of state, practical difficulties abounded in putting it into action. Monitoring all OPEC output and sales of both crude oil and refined products would be a huge and complex task, they said.

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices drifted lower at the close ahead of the Christmas break, dealers said. The FTSE 100 index at 1530 GMT was down 5.1 at 1202.1.

Oils were still depressed, with the OPEC meeting adjourned to Dec. 27 and crude oil price differentials yet to be discussed. Sentiment was further dampened by the large sell-off of U.K. company oil shares earlier this week by Kuwait. B.P. shed 7p at 463, Shell eased 3p at 628 and Britoil declined 5p at 193.

Government bonds showed net gains of up to 1/2 point on the steeper sterling but eased from their opening highs due to lack of interest. Golds were firm and North Americans mixed.

Grand Metropolitan and Distillers both eased 3p following Thursday's lower than expected results at 300 and 294 respectively. ICI dropped 4p at 740, Thorn EMI shed 10p at 442 and BOC declined 3p at 257.

Reckitt and Colman fell 20p to 553 following the acquisition of the Airwick group from Ciba-Geigy for about 500 million Swiss francs while Minet Holdings shed 11p at 240 following Thursday's gains on its third quarter results.

Foods met some profit-taking after their recent gains, with Rowntree down 8p at 370. Banks were steady and insurances lower.

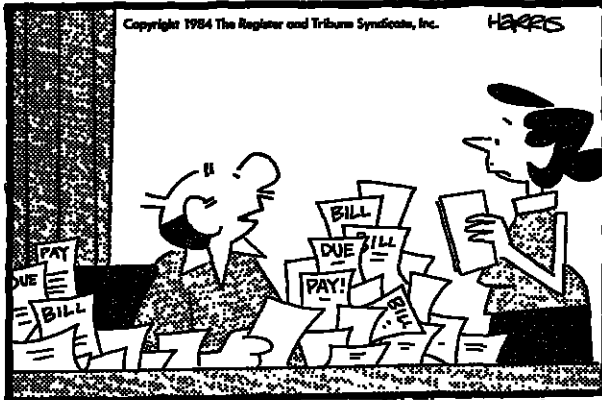
## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.1690/1700	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3174/78	Canadian dollars
	3.1170/90	West German marks
	3.5190/5220	Dutch guilders
	2.5630/70	Swiss francs
	62.52/57	Belgian francs
	9.5400/5500	French francs
	1917.02/0.0	Italian lire
	247.90/8.10	Japanese yen
	8.9050/9250	Swedish crowns
	9.0100/0300	Norwegian crowns
	11.1600/1800	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	311.25/311.75	U.S. dollars

## THE BETTER HALF.

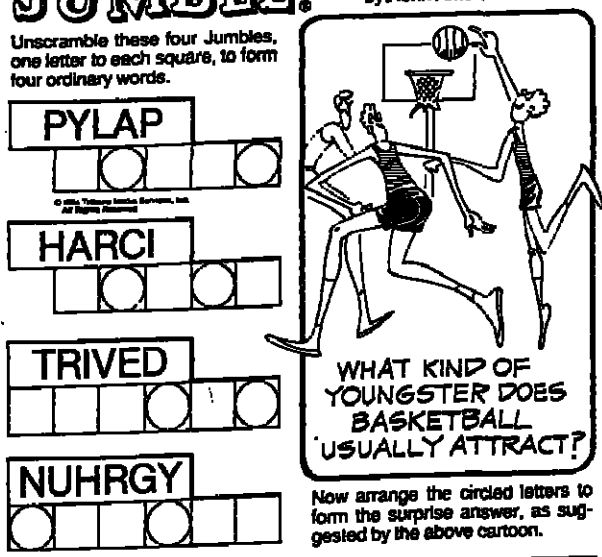
By Harris



"If we can post-date all the checks for January 1, 1992 we'll be fine!"

## JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Answer here: A VERY (Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: FLOOD SWOON WALLOP FINISH Answer: What that Peeping Tom was — A WINDOW FAN

## Peanuts



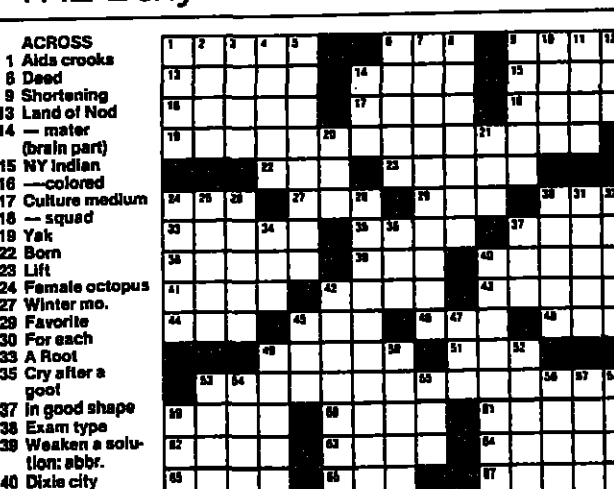
## Mutt 'n' Jeff



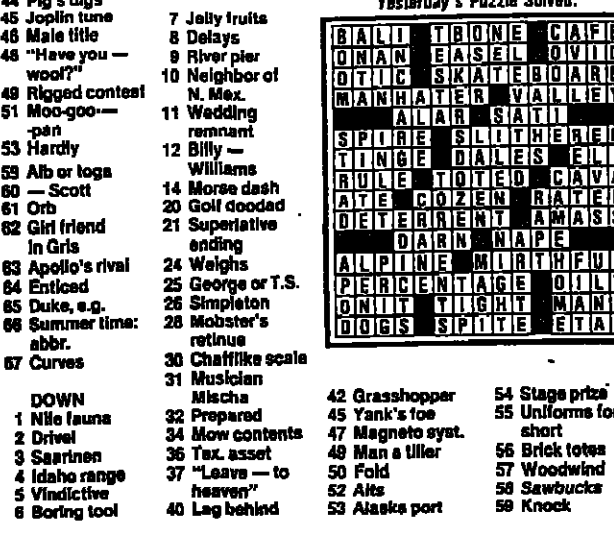
## Andy Capp



## THE Daily Crossword by John Greenman



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:





## U.S. says Soviets aiming for 450 to 500 SS-20s

BRUSSELS (R) — The United States has forecast that the Soviet Union would ultimately deploy between 450 and 500 SS-20 medium-range nuclear missiles, compared with the 387 Washington says it has at present.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Burt told a news conference at NATO headquarters: "I think it is possible at this stage to suggest that the ultimate number of SS-20 deployments, based on what we know about new base construction, is likely to range from between 450 to 500."

He was speaking after chairing the last session of NATO's special consultative group on medium-range missiles before next month's Geneva talks between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

The group declared NATO's support for what it called "the United States determination to pursue in a serious and flexible

way negotiations leading to balanced, meaningful and verifiable reductions and limits on these systems."

Diplomats who attended the meeting said it yielded no new information on U.S. preparations for the Shultz-Gromyko session. One said it had been held "largely for form's sake."

The group's statement took special note of NATO government's determination to continue deploying U.S. cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in the absence of a concrete negotiation result.

"With the approach of a new and it is hoped productive phase in the arms control dialogue, allied governments are committed to maintaining close and regular consultations," it added.

Mr. Burt said the U.S. would tailor its consultation procedures once it became clear what form the new arms talks would take, but the special NATO group would continue to play a major part.

He based his forecast of a big increase in SS-20 deployments on the number of bases now under construction and the fact that, according to U.S. intelligence, the rate of production of the triple-warhead missiles was unabated.

The majority of new SS-20 bases under construction were in the Western part of the Soviet Union, he said, indicating most of the new missiles would be targeted on Western Europe.

Asked if the U.S. was encouraged by comments on arms control by Soviet politburo member Mikhail Gorbachev in Britain this week, Mr. Burt said: "To the extent to which his remarks suggest the Soviets are prepared to take a serious look at realistic arms control in Geneva, then that is a positive development."



SIGHTSEEING: Soviet Politburo member Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife sightseeing in London.

## Thatcher defends Hong Kong deal

HONG KONG (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said Friday the agreement handing Hong Kong to China's Communist rulers in 1997 was better than no deal at all.

Mrs. Thatcher told a news conference the Sino-British pact signed in Peking on Wednesday after two years of often difficult negotiations would ensure the stability and prosperity of the territory well into the next century.

With a stroke of the pen, the staunchly anti-Communist Thatcher agreed to place Hong Kong's 5.3 million people under Chinese rule in 13 years.

China has also pledged to let Hong Kong keep its capitalist system for 50 years after the handover under a concept of "one country, two systems."

Mrs. Thatcher said: "The agreement assures the continuation of Hong Kong as a free-trading

capitalist society for a very long time to come into the middle of the next century. This means that Hong Kong can plan long-term with confidence."

She told Hong Kong's civic leaders Thursday that during her 36-hour stay in Peking, top leader Deng Xiaoping and Premier Zhao Ziyang had assured her China would honour its commitment.

Mrs. Thatcher brushed aside a reporter's question of whether it was morally defensible to deliver Hong Kong's people "into the hands of a Communist dictatorship."

She retorted: "What do you think would have happened if we had not attempted to get an agreement? In 1997, 92 per cent of the territory would have reverted to China."

Hong Kong Island and the Kowloon peninsula were ceded to Britain permanently but the remainder of the territory was leased under a 99-year agreement expiring in 1997.

Mrs. Thatcher said the agreement, which must be formally ratified by the two sides by June 30 next year, was basically acceptable to the people of Hong Kong.

But she said that Britain and China were aware of anxiety in the territory over some parts of the accord.

Chief among them are the forming of a joint liaison group to oversee the implementation of the agreement, the stationing of Chinese troops in Hong Kong and the question of nationality.

Mrs. Thatcher afterwards left for Washington to brief President Reagan on her talks in Peking and discussions in London with Soviet politburo member Mikhail Gorbachev.

## Jayawardene ends all party conference

COLOMBO (R) — President Junius Jayawardene Friday dissolved an all-party conference trying to find ways of solving Sri Lanka's ethnic unrest and hinted he might call a referendum or a general election on the issue.

Mr. Jayawardene wound up the conference saying the government "would have to make the final decision on the best way of resolving the ethnic issue and introduce laws in parliament."

He said the supreme court would have to examine if the proposals contravened the constitution.

Laws that do not conform to the constitution have to be referred to a referendum. The president has powers to call a referendum or a general election.

Mr. Jayawardene told delegates from political parties, ethnic groups and religious organisations taking part in the conference that their task had now come to an end.

The conference, called by Mr. Jayawardene after more than 400 people were killed in ethnic violence last year, opened 11 months ago to find ways of ending tension between the island's Sinhalese and Tamils.

Tamils, who form 2.5 million of the island's 15 million population, accuse the government of discriminating against them and are demanding a separate state.

## Britain's fuel train fire in tunnel still blazing

LITTLEBOROUGH, England (AP) — Over 100 firemen were still fighting a fire Friday, a day after it broke out in a 3.2 kilometre railroad tunnel Thursday 60 metres under the Pennine Hills in northern England when a train carrying petroleum gas was derailed.

At one stage, 30-metre high flames blazed into the sky through a large surface ventilation shaft from the tunnel.

Yorkshire Fire Department spokesman Ralph Mallinson said Friday there was no longer risk of an explosion but the tunnel might collapse.

Firemen continued to pour large quantities of foam into the tunnel through surface air vents during the night and Mr. Mallinson said the emergence Friday of more steam and less smoke from the vents indicated the fierceness of the fire had lessened.

At one stage Thursday, firemen fled for their lives as a series of fireballs erupted. The 14-car derailed freight train was carrying 100 tons of fuel, police reported.

Mr. Mallinson said the normally busy rail link between the cities of Leeds and Manchester would remain closed and gave no indication when it might be reopened.

Authorities reported that leaking petroleum seeped into a nearby river. Police appealed to local residents not to discard lighted matches or cigarettes in the area around the tunnel.

KARACHI (R) — Pakistan's military government has been holding secret talks with its opponents to discuss the appointment of a prominent critic as prime minister, senior opposition leaders said Friday.

The meetings, which started early this month, have centered on making Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi head of the coming civilian government, the leaders, who asked not to be identified, told Reuters.

Mr. Jatoi, who declined to comment, is the acting head of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) of former Prime Minister Zulfikar

Ali Bhutto, overthrown by President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq in 1977 and later hanged.

Gen. Zia was assured five more years in power on Wednesday through a controversial referendum on his Islamic reforms.

The leaders said senior generals had met heads of the opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) several times this month. But a government spokesman said he did not know of such meetings.

Mr. Jatoi was offered the post of prime minister in 1980 but refused because Gen. Zia would not announce an election date.

Gen. Zia is now only three months away from the March 23 deadline he has set for polls for a civilian parliament.

The MRD signalled a more moderate stance Thursday by offering itself as a caretaker government.

It dropped its demand that Gen. Zia resign and blamed what it called the rigging of the referendum on Chief Election Commissioner S.A. Nusrat.

Mr. Nusrat, whose carefully planned election programme was modified several times before and during polling.

## Indian opposition urges defeat of Gandhi

NEW DELHI (R) — The leaders of six Indian opposition parties Friday launched a joint appeal for the defeat of heavily favoured Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in the general elections that start on Monday.

The opposition chiefs, all non-Communists and including former Prime Minister Charan Singh, declared in a statement that Mr. Gandhi's Congress (I) Party had failed the country and could preserve neither Indian unity nor the life of the nation's citizens.

"It has become only a corrupt machine for the self-aggrandisement of the few," the statement said.

"We call upon all our countrymen to defeat the Congress (I) candidates and pave the way for the emergence of a new India."

Mr. Gandhi himself, who has described the opposition as splintered and ineffective, pressed on with the last stages of his campaign, touring the southern state of Tamil Nadu which lies adjacent to the island nation of Sri Lanka.

Reuter correspondent Chaitanya Kalbag, following the Gandhi swing, reported the Indian leader as voicing deep concern over the ethnic crisis in Sri Lanka.

Tamil Nadu's people have close cultural and religious links with the Tamil minority in Sri Lanka.

Mr. Gandhi promised that this country's navy would provide full protection for local fishermen, whose boats, he said, had been fired on during the Sri Lanka crisis.

The Congress (I) campaigners in Tamil Nadu have had to deal with the pressing local issue posed by the Sri Lanka situation as well as seeking sympathy votes following the Oct. 31 assassination of the prime minister's mother and predecessor, Indira Gandhi.

They have also sought support over the illness of the state's Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran, a major Gandhi ally and former film star, who underwent a kidney transplant operation in New York this week.

Commenting on Friday's opposition declaration, a spokesman for one of the parties involved said it was an attempt to compensate for the earlier failure of the anti-Gandhi groups to agree on which seats to fight in their campaigns against the government party.

Voting in the general election takes place on Dec. 27 as well as on Monday.

But there is no voting in the troubled states of Punjab and Assam. On Friday, the governor of Punjab, scene of violence between government forces and Sikh extremists, indicated there would be no state elections either in Punjab in the near future.

LIVERPOOL, England (R) — Liverpool City Council has approved the closure of Strawberry Field, a children's home celebrated in song by the Beatles. The city council voted to run down the home over the next five years by not placing any more children in its care. Strawberry Field inspired a hit based on the childhood memories of Beatle John Lennon.

Peter Lawford in coma

LOS ANGELES (R) — British-born actor Peter Lawford, who was treated for alcoholism earlier this year, has slipped into a coma and is in critical condition, a hospital spokesman said. The spokesman would not give the cause of his illness, but said the outlook for his recovery was very uncertain. Friends said they believed he had kidney and liver problems. Lawford, 61, entered hospital last Sunday. Before undergoing treatment for alcoholism last January he said he believed vodka was killing him, "and I don't want to die." Lawford was first married to Patricia Kennedy, sister of the late President John Kennedy, and joined the so-called "rat pack," whose members included Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin. The marriage ended in divorce in 1966 after they had four children.

Big chill hits Soviet Central Asia

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Central Asia, more used to desert heat than Siberian chills, is reporting the coldest winter on record, the government newspaper Izvestia said. Temperatures in Tashkent, the ancient capital of Uzbekistan, have plunged to minus 35 Celsius (minus 31 Fahrenheit), the paper said. As a result, gas reserves in the region normally sent to colder climates, are being diverted to the main cities of Central Asia. Meanwhile, the north eastern Siberian cities of Verkhoyansk and Oymyakon, have already recorded minus 56 Celsius (minus 68 Fahrenheit) temperature, Izvestia said.

## Soviet leader begins talks in Peking

PEKING (R) — A Soviet leader opened talks Friday on boosting trade between Moscow and Peking and said improved relations between the two estranged Communist giants would help global security.

Soviet First Deputy Premier Ivan Arkhipov, the highest-ranking Kremlin leader to visit China since 1969, plunged into talks on furthering trade and economic links between the two former allies within hours of arriving from Moscow.

Western and Asian diplomats said he was expected to discuss a 1986-90 trade agreement with the Chinese as well as Sino-Soviet technical and scientific cooperation.

He had talks lasting 75 minutes Friday afternoon in the Great Hall of the People with Chinese Vice-Premier Yao Yilin, who welcomed

him with a big hug after Mr. Arkhipov's Tupolev-154 touched down at Peking Airport.

The talks were attended by Qian Qichen, China's vice foreign minister who deals with Soviet relations, as well as Mr. Arkhipov's accompanying high-level economic delegation.

The official New China News Agency (NCNA) quoted Mr. Arkhipov as saying his visit would enlarge exchanges in the economic, trade, scientific and technical fields.

Mr. Arkhipov abruptly cancelled a trip to Peking in May and diplomats interpreted it as a display of Soviet anger over President Reagan's successful China tour the month before and clashes along the Sino-Vietnamese border.

On arrival Friday, Mr. Arkhipov told reporters Moscow now

saw positive trends in relations between the two Communist neighbours and said there was a large potential for further expansion of trade.

"The development of relations between the USSR and the People's Republic of China would not only serve the interests of the people of our two countries but would also contribute to international cooperation and peace," the 77-year-old leader declared in his arrival statement.

Mr. Arkhipov is regarded by Peking as an old friend of China. He served as a diplomat here during the years of Sino-Soviet friendship in the 1950s and was involved in the formulation of China's first 1953-57 five-year plan.

Sino-Soviet trade is set to rise to \$1.4 billion in 1985, up from \$1.05 billion this year.

## Czechoslovak newspaper praises Genscher visit

VIENNA (R) — Czechoslovakia's trade union daily Prace Friday a recent visit by West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher to Prague had contributed towards better East-West relations.

"The talks in Prague confirmed the viability of the principles of peaceful coexistence between countries with different social systems and was a contribution towards livelier East-West relations after a cool phase in the last few months," Prace said, quoted by the official Ceteke News Agency.

Prace said tension had been caused by the deployment of U.S. missiles on West German territory and by "revanchist calls which often come from high circles."

"But history gave us the role of neighbours. These are not always members of one family or close friends. However they should be solid and reliable partners, especially in the nuclear age," Prace added.

Mr. Genscher ended a three-day official visit to Prague Thursday during which he discussed bilateral and international issues with Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Choupek.

Mr. Genscher Thursday visited a group of 70 East Germans camped in his country's Prague embassy but held out little hope of them making an early exit to the West.

The East Germans are staging a sit-in at the legation in a bid to gain permits to leave for the West. Some 40 of them have been on hunger strike since last Friday to press their demands.

Diplomatic sources said Mr. Genscher had told the would-be emigrants — some of whom have been in the mission since September — that they should return to East Germany and submit their applications for exist permits there.

He also gave them a full briefing on contacts between Bonn and East Berlin over the sit-in and promised that they would not be evicted from the legation, the sources added.

He was accompanied by Ludwig Rehlinger, state secretary at the Inner-German Affairs Ministry, who has been in charge of negotiations on the situation for Bonn.

Mr. Rehlinger said last week that discussions with East Germany over the issue had come to a dead end.

East Berlin has granted exit permits to East Germans who have occupied West German legations in Eastern Europe in the past.

## Pravda criticises U.S. pullout from UNESCO

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet daily Pravda said Friday the United States, which is pulling out of UNESCO at the end of the year, had used "blackmail and threats" in an aborted attempt to change the organisation.

Pravda said the United States had disagreed with most other members on policy. Washington had opposed the international organisation's programmes aimed at helping developing countries, as well as its stance on disarmament, apartheid and its condemnation of Israeli policy in the Middle East.

The United States had been increasingly isolated in UNESCO's discussions on the fate of the world, Pravda said.

The United States confirmed its decision to pull out of UNESCO — the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation — two days ago, say-

ing the called-for reforms had not gone far enough.

The Reagan administration last December gave a year's notice of withdrawal from UNESCO but said it could reverse the decision if sufficient reforms were made.

The U.S. pullout deprives the agency of \$47 million in American dues, about a quarter of its annual budget.

Other Western countries have also expressed concern about the running of UNESCO and Britain announced last month that it would pull out unless reforms were made by the end of 1985.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Gregory Newell told reporters that reform efforts made during the year appeared genuine, but "in the light of the serious concerns we expressed last December an unacceptable gap clearly remains."

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
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### A DASH OF HOLIDAY SPIRIT

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH  
♦ AK J 5  
♥ J 8 7 3 2  
♦ 5 2  
♣ 3

WEST  
♦ 10 9 8 7  
♥ A  
♦ K J 10 8  
♣ 9 5 4 2

EAST  
♦ Q 6 4 3  
♥ K  
♦ 6 4 3  
♣ K Q 10 7 6

SOUTH  
♦ 2  
♥ Q 10 6 5 4  
♦ A Q 9 7  
♣ A J 8

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
2 ♦ Pass 4 ♥ Pass  
5 ♠ Pass 6 ♥ Pass  
Pass Double Pass Pass  
Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠.

Beware of loose doubles. If your action points the way for declarer to make his contract, the swing is enormous.

This deal was played after an evening of great festivity — food was abundant and wine flowed freely. As a result, both North and South seemed to think they possessed an ace more than they actually held, which accounts for the final contract. West's double was equally incomprehensible, but there was nothing the matter with South's handling of the contract.

After West led the 10 of spades, declarer carefully in-

spected dummy. Had there been no double, he would surely have gone down — the sensible way to play the contract would have been to surrender a trump trick and then rely on the diamond finesse.

The double, however, drew a roadmap for declarer. Unless West held both missing trumps, in which case there was nothing that could be done to save the hand, he surely had the king of diamonds and was expecting to collect a diamond trick in addition to the ace of trumps. He was soon proved wrong.

Declarer won the king of spades, cashed the ace of spades for a club discard, and ruffed a spade. After ruffing a club on the board, and dummy's last spade in hand, South was ready to administer the coup de grace.

He exited with a trump. West captured his partner's king perforce, and was faced with a Hobson's choice. A diamond lead would be into declarer's major tenace; a club would allow him to discard dummy's diamond loser while ruffing in hand.

As the cards lie, the contract should have been defeated. At trick one, West should have led the ace of hearts! Now he can exit safely and sit back and wait to score his king of diamonds for the setting trick.